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Department of State TELEGRAM

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-06 H-02 INR-06 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03
RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 IO-11 UPW-01 RSR-01 /074 W
042380

O R 031455Z OCT 71 ZFF-1
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0662
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
CINCPAC
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
USDEL FRANCE
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMCONSUL DANANG

UNCLAS SAIGON 15789

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUB : PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION RETURNS

1. PARTIAL OFFICIAL RETURNS AS OF 10 P.M. ON THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION INDICATE THAT THE PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL VOTER TURNOUT WILL BE IN THE MID 80'S AND THE PERCENTAGE OF VALID VOTES WILL BE IN THE HIGH 80'S OR 90'S. THE OFFICIAL ELECTION INFORMATION CENTER HAS FINAL RESULTS FOR TWO OF THE REGIONS: MR I WHERE 85.7 PERCENT OF THE REGISTERED VOTERS TURNED OUT AND MR IV WHER88.1 PERCENT VOTED. AT 4 P.M., AN HOUR BEFORE THE POLLS CLOSED 66.1 PERCENT OF THE REGISTERED VOTERS HAD VOTED IN SAIGON. SO FAR ONLY A FEW OF THE PROVINCES HAVE SUBMITTED THE FINAL PERCENTAGES OF VALID VOTES CAST (I.E. THOSE EXPRESSING CONFIDENCE IN PRESIDENT THIEU.) DANANG CITY REPORTS 74.4 PERCENT VALID VOTES. BUT VINH LONG PROVINCE REPORTS 97.3 PERCENT, KIEN TUONG 97.7 PERCENT, KONTUM 99.0 PERCENT, NINH THUAN 99.2 PERCENT, AND DARLAC 97.8 PERCENT.

(1)

2. GENERALLY THE BALLOTING TOOK PLACE PEACEFULY AROUND THE COUNTRY, ALTHOUGH WITH HEAVY SECURITY MEASURES. THE COMMUNISTS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Izabey DATE 1/26/82
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE 10/3/72
TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☐ RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE DENIED☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____

SAIGON 15789

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MORTARED OR ROCKETED A NUMBER OF TOWNS OR CITIES. INCLUDING THREE ROCKETS INTOSAIGON CAUSING THREE DEAD. THERE WAS ALSO SOME MINOR TERRORISM BUT WITH LITTLE OVERALL EFFECT. THE MOST SERIOUS INCIDENT TOOK PLACE IN DANANG AND INVOLVED A NUMBER OF CASUALTIES IN CLASHES BETWEEN POLICE AND VETERANS AND BUDHIST AND VNQDD STUDENTS. (REPORTED IN OTHER CHANNELS.)

3. THE GVN CONDUCTED TOURS AROUND THE COUNTRY FOR SOME 300 RESIDENT AND VISITING ELECTION OBSERVORS.
BUNKER

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